

JUDGMENT IN THE MORATORIUM
MONEY-LENDING CASE WAS DELIVERED
IN THE SUPREME COURT THIS MORNING.
... REPORT ON PAGE ONE OF THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH.
FOR SELL ON BEHALF OF
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

TODAY'S WEATHER: Light or moderate Northeast winds; fine.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure 1023.7 mb. 30.23 in.
Temperature 63.1 deg. F. Dew point 40.0 deg. F. Relative humidity
43. Wind direction NNE. Wind force 0 knots.
High water: 8 ft. 4 in. at 8:20 p.m.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

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VOL. IV NO. 11

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1949.

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Commonwealth Ministers May Discuss Far East

London, Jan. 13.—The possibility of a Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' conference in the Far East this year is believed to have been in Dr Herbert Evatt's mind when he referred, at Perth, Australia, today to one of the more important decisions of the London Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, "not yet announced."

Dr Evatt, who is Australia's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister represented the Prime Minister, Mr Joseph B. Chifley, at the London

The practicability of holding a Far East conference of Commonwealth Ministers to discuss social, economic, political and—according to some—quarantine—defence problems is understood to have been considered by the Commonwealth countries since the Prime Ministers' talks in London in October.

Neither the date nor the venue has yet been fixed, but May or June have been mentioned as possible times, and a decision seems likely soon.

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers, when they met, took the view that there should be more frequent opportunities for mutual contact between the member countries.

ANNOUNCEMENT SOON

The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr Peter Fraser, before he left London recently, told Reuter: "It would be very strange if, during the coming year, there were not some Commonwealth talks about the Far Eastern situation, though I know of nothing planned so far."

The Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mr Don Stephen Senanayake, has also expressed the hope that it might be possible to hold a Commonwealth Ministers' meeting in Ceylon.

Mr Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, will make an announcement to Parliament soon on the proposals advanced at the London conference, which have since been the subject of Commonwealth exchanges.

The Prime Ministers discussed the question of the interval at which Commonwealth Ministers should meet. There were varying views as to whether the meetings should be at yearly or half yearly intervals, and as to the degree of regularity which should be maintained.

The conference also discussed the possible arrangements for direct access by the Commonwealth High Commissioners and their staffs to Government departments in the various countries.

Such access, it is thought, would have a particular value in London, with its large highly specialised Treasury, Board of Trade and other departments.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

New Immigration Bill

To those members of the general public who passionately believe that full-blooded immigration restrictions are essential to the future welfare and security of the Colony, the Ordinance which was given its first reading at Legislative Council on Wednesday will offer opportunity for cynical smirks, and even infarction. In content, the new legislation gives the widest possible powers for the limitation of entry into Hongkong; in application, it would not appear to go beyond the restrictions already in force. Immigration into the Colony is essentially associated with Chinese, but it was made very clear by the Attorney-General on Wednesday that the exemption from provisions of the Ordinance, which resides within the power of the Governor in Council, are to be applied to Chinese. Which, from the point of view of immigration, leaves us roughly where we were before. It is a pity that while interpretation and meaning of the new Bill was being discussed by the Attorney-General he was not, at the same time, empowered to disclose precisely the intention of the legislation. It can only be assumed, and the assumption is that if and until there is a deluge of civil war, it is evacuated from the mainland into Hongkong, policy is to remain that any Chinese, Hongkong-born or otherwise, is free to come and leave at will. And in general this is, perhaps, a fair enough policy, except that it overlooks (or seemingly does) the danger of inundating immigration, i.e., the gradual but persistent arrival of

RESHUFFLE UNLIKELY TO AFFECT TOP MINISTERS

London, Jan. 13.—The truth about the Prime Minister's predicted Government reshuffle, in which speculation had involved up to a third of his Ministry, is that even those sources close to the Prime Minister do not yet know of his intentions.

The only established fact is that he will appoint a new Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade to replace Mr John Belcher, who resigned following the proceedings of a tribunal investigating allegations of corruption in Government quarters.

This presumably would involve some reshuffle of junior Ministers.

Little support can be found in informed quarters for the suggestion of a reshuffle involving the Cabinet hierarchy itself. Speculators have talked of the possible resignation of Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, but few have suggested whom the Government could switch to replace him.

With an election little more than a year distant, it is unlikely that Mr Attlee will wish to embark on a large experimental re-

shuffle at Cabinet level.—Reuter.

NO APPEASEMENT OF RUSSIA IS DEAN ACHESON'S POLICY

Washington, Jan. 13.—Mr Dean Acheson, today pledged himself to continue the "no appeasement" policy towards Russia when he becomes Secretary of State, and said he would see that subversives were kept out of the State Department.

The suave, 55-year-old lawyer-diplomat told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which held a brief hearing on his nomination to succeed Mr George Marshall, that reports that he was an appeaser were not true.

Mr Acheson testified that, while he could not at this time spell out in detail his attitude towards the Soviet Union, he fully intended to follow the "example" set by Mr Marshall in his difficult and sometimes stormy relations with the Kremlin.

"I think I know something of the need in American foreign policy for steadiness and continuity," said Mr Acheson.

His frank and frequently detailed statement of his attitude towards Russia and subversive elements seemed to erase any possibility of a serious Senate challenge to his confirmation.

Before Senator Connally closed the Committee hearing, the former Secretary of State, Mr Edward Stettinius, said Mr Acheson had played an important role in laying the groundwork for the United Nations. Mr Stettinius also volunteered the information that he was writing a "record" of the controversial Yalta conference, and said it would be published as soon as State Department clearance was obtained. He said he wanted to clear up untruths about it, presumably referring to charges that the United States made too many concessions to Russia at Yalta.

Mr Acheson said he and the indicted Alger Hiss also "became friends and remain friends." Mr Acheson was asked a series of searching questions about his background, his connections with the Polish loan, his law firm's connections with the official Polish supply mission and his relationship with the Pitts brothers.

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Alger Hiss was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury recently on perjury charges. The jury accused Hiss of lying when he did not turn State Department documents over to Whittaker Chambers, admitted former Communist courier.

Mr Acheson told the committee chairman, Tom Connally (Democrat, Texas), "Alger Hiss was an officer in the State Department. We became friends and remain friends. He was never my assistant, and except for the last few months when I was acting Secretary of State he never reported to me anyway."

Mr Acheson said he approved the \$90,000,000 loan to Poland in April 1948, when he was acting Secretary of State. He said the loan was granted with certain conditions. But Mr Acheson said he had not profited from his law firm's connections with the Polish government. He said his firm severed connections with the Polish government when the United States later charged that the 1946 Polish national elections were "rigged" for the Communists. Meanwhile, Republican grumblings against Mr Acheson's appointment all but died away.—United Press.

STOP PRESS!

KOWLOON DOCK FIRE

Three engines from the Kowloon Fire Station and one fire float were summoned to Kowloon Dock shortly before 1 o'clock this afternoon to deal with a fire which broke out among waste oil in a dump in the East Yard.

The fire was restricted to a piece of open ground and was under control by 1.30 p.m. There were no casualties.

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ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN ARMISTICE TALKS OPEN ENCOURAGINGLY

Mediator Makes Appeal To Avoid Incidents

FIRST OFFICIAL MOVE FOR PALESTINE PEACE

Rhodes, Jan. 13.—Dr Ralph Bunche, the acting Palestine Mediator, opened the Israeli-Egyptian armistice talks in Rhodes today by appealing to all Governments to avoid incidents which "might jeopardise the constructive progress of the deliberations towards an armistice accord."

He said: "I have in mind not only the Governments involved in these negotiations or in the Palestine conflict but those as well whose interests impel them to keep a close surveillance on developments in the area."

The conference is the first occasion in which Jews and Arabs have met officially to discuss peace. Earlier today, the acting Mediator held preliminary individual conferences with the leaders of the two delegations—Dr Walter Eytan, of Israel, and Colonel Mohammed Ibrahim Seif Ed Dine, of Egypt.

Fresh hopes of a settlement at the Rhodes talks were raised by reports on the eve of the conference that both sides were prepared to make concessions and to recede from their original demands for the whole of the Negev, the south Palestine desert area which is a key issue in the dispute.

Dr Eytan told Reuter that he is "extremely conscious" of the importance of the conference. He said: "We know that the war in Palestine, like all wars, is an evil thing and we will do our utmost to bring it to an end. I hope this will be the first of many talks between ourselves and the Arab States."

The Military Governor of Jerusalem, Dr Bernard Joseph, said in Atlantic City, New Jersey, today that the 90,000 Jews in the new section of the Holy City "will never give up Jerusalem to please the desires of foreign States."

Mr Forrestal also said that the programme has been approved by the National Security Council, top policy-making body, which coordinates military and foreign places."

He added that President Truman would make a request to Congress on this subject "shortly."—Reuter.

Spain Wants Back Islands In Pacific

Madrid, Jan. 13.—It was learned today that the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Senor Martin Artajo, reaffirmed Spain's claim to a group of Pacific Islands—apparently the Carolines—and indicated that Spain would put in her bid when ownership of the Islands is decided at a future international conference.

A spokesman for the Ministry said Senor Artajo yesterday told Cabinet meeting that Spain still laid claim to a certain group of islands in Micronesia—one of three great groups of Pacific Islands and atolls.

Micronesia includes the Mariana, Gilbert, Marshall and Carolines groups. The Carolines, North of New Guinea, were discovered by a Portuguese captain in 1527, but were largely explored by Spain's Admiral Francisco Llano in 1668 and renamed by him in honour of Charles II of Spain.

The Nationalist defenders, deep in the heart of Tientsin last night, literally commanded the city with more and more foreshortened strongpoints and even had sandbag fortifications in the lawns of the former British Concession's Victoria Park in front of Gordon Hall, the seat of the Municipal Government, and across the street from the British Consulate, the British-owned Court Hotel and the Astor House.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said it was under the 1899 treaty with Germany that Spain claimed rights to some of the islands, consisting of three naval stations and four archipelagos. Spain's ownership claims recently have been pushed in press and radio articles, especially sponsored by Emilio Pastor Santos, leading exponent of the Philippines.

Political circles interpreted the spokesman's statement as positive evidence that Spain would present her claim at the first opportunity.—United Press.

TIENTSIN'S HOPES FOR EARLY PEACE DIMMED

Tientsin, Jan. 14.—Tientsin's hopes for an early negotiated peace were mostly dispelled yesterday afternoon when the Communist artillery in the eastern and western parts of the city opened up a terrific bombardment.

For three hours, Tientsin shook under the impact of the barrage, which appeared to be working up to something very far from an immediate truce.

With the bright moonlight nights already waning, conditions became more favourable for nocturnal penetration into the city. The intensified shelling by the Communists seemed to be a warning to the inhabitants not to pin great hopes on the peace talks for Tientsin.

The bombardment appeared to indicate, observers said, that if the Communist conditions were not accepted they would be forced upon the defenders by military might sooner or later.

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The Nationalists were said to be meeting the attacking Reds, with armoured cars, infantry and artillery, supported by warplanes. Pro-Government reports claimed that all Communist attacks were repulsed.

In Tientsin, the peace emissaries from 12 Nanjing University professors were endeavouring to enlist popular support for their peace efforts and to exert pressure on the local military authorities to admit the futility of the present operations.—Reuter.

Amid the thundering gunfire, reports circulated that some shells were not only high-explosive types but also incendiaries or phosphorus, which added to the general concern. Great international oil companies have their installations and stocks of the Hotung side of the river only a few hundred yards south of godowns which sustained hits yesterday.

Meanwhile, the exodus of the population across the river continues at an accelerated tempo and aged Chinese women were seen seeking shelter, covering their heads with wash basins as protection against mortar fragments.

The remaining populace, constructed dugouts in their yards as casualties began to mount. At least 50 dead were reported to the Court Coroner's office yesterday morning.

The Foreign Office statement said that the Foreign Office had not claimed that the United States had requested Britain to undertake the reconnaissance. At the same time, British quarters considered that the facts clearly showed that the United States knew that the British investigations were taking place and encouraged the British Government to supply information.

It was believed in diplomatic quarters here that Sir Oliver Franks would have made it clear to President Truman that Mr Ernest Bovis would be forced to inform the British public of the extent to which American policy had supported and encouraged the recent British investigations into the military situation near the Egyptian-Palestine border.—Reuter.

RELATIONS NOT HURT

Washington, Jan. 13.—President Truman today denied that the Palestine crisis had hurt relations between the United States and Britain, and said there had been no change in the United States' foreign policy in the Middle East.

The President was asked at the press conference about the 30-minute conference he had earlier with the British Ambassador, Sir Oliver Franks. Informed sources said the Ambassador had asked Mr Truman to get behind the Anglo-American peace drive in Palestine.

Mr Truman said he had no statement to make on the meeting and referred all questioners to the statement made in November by Dr Philip Jessup, then acting head of the American delegation to the United Nations. Mr Truman said: "Dr Jessup's statement still covered the situation."

Dr Jessup said that it was the desire of the United States to maintain "historic ties of friendship" with all peoples of the Middle East and "to see them reconcile their differences either by direct discussions among themselves or through some assistance from the United Nations."

(Continued on Page 5)

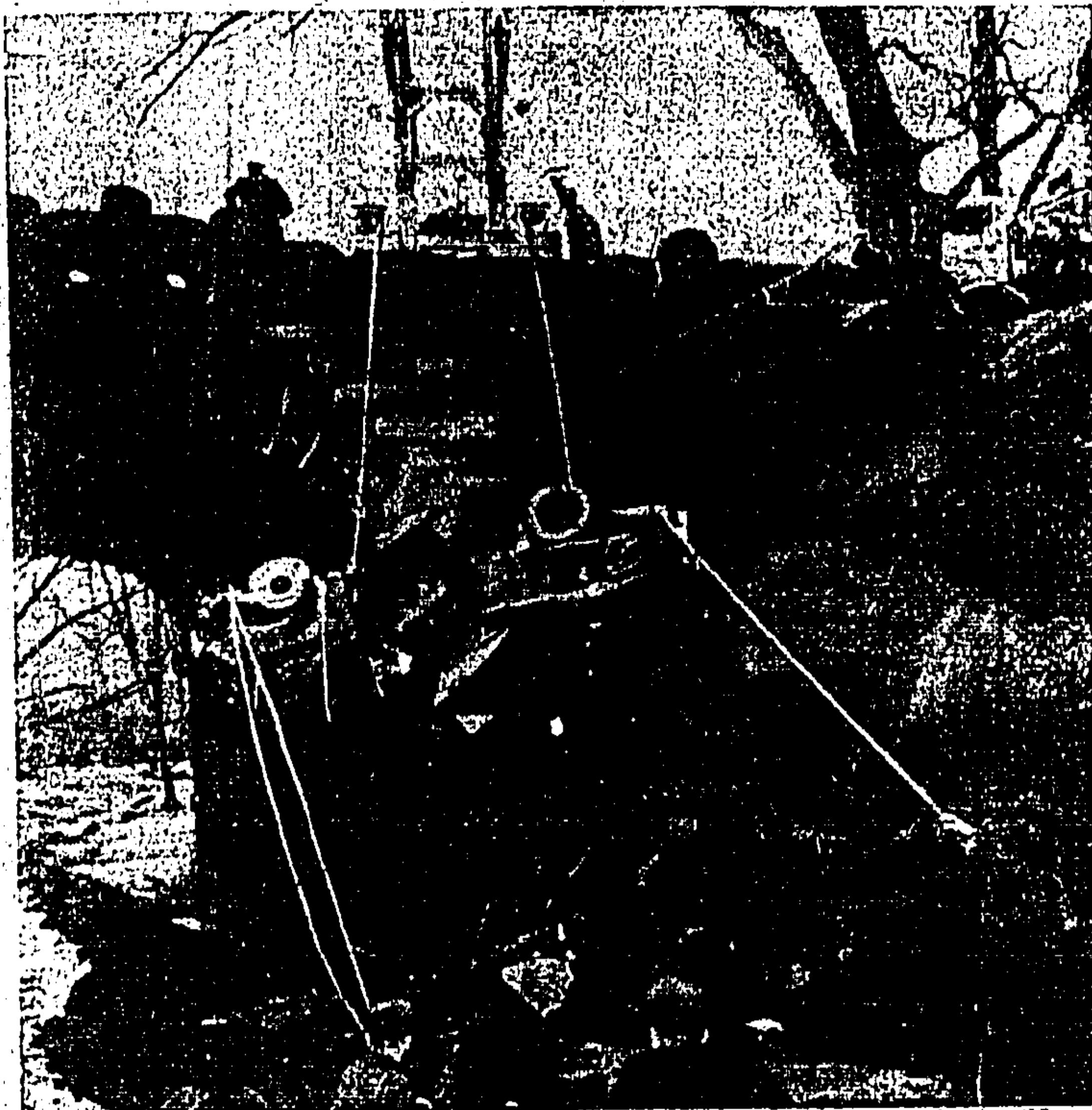
WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



RELIGIOUS RITE—The Rt. Rev. Monsignor Joseph F. Flannery lies prostrate on the altar during his consecration as Titular Bishop of Metella and Auxiliary Bishop of New York. Presiding at the solemn ceremony of the Roman Catholic Church at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City is Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, wearing mitre.



PARTY SPICE—Patrice Munsel chooses a cinnamon and black two-piece affair for party wear in New York. The pure silk taffeta skirt is topped by a fitted velvet blouse flared with bustle.



SALVAGE JOB—Emergency squad police, who had to use sledge hammers to extricate the two victims, raise a car which plunged off a 40-foot embankment on Central Park's West Drive in New York. The car landed on its roof, seriously injuring the two occupants.



ROYAL NURSE—Another picture of the Royal baby. Prince Charles of Edinburgh rests peacefully in the arms of his nurse, Helen Maude Rowe, who attended Princess Elizabeth at the birth.



NEW STADIUM IN RIO DE JANEIRO—These stands are being erected for the gigantic new sports stadium scheduled for use in Rio de Janeiro by 1950. Facilities will be provided for American football, soccer, track events and many other sports.



WHAT PRICE BEAUTY—Actress Gregg Sherwood, though smiling, is disappointed. Beauty is hampering her career. She wants to act but producers give her parts which require her only to look pretty.



SOMETHING IS WRONG—Valley Beau, a boxer, looks uncomfortable as his friend Paul Terry hits a high pitch on the vocal cords on the arrival of the liner America in New York. Son of Sgt. and Mrs. Oliver Terry of Onida, Tennessee, a GI and French bride married in Metz, France, Paul is 15 months old.

MORPHY-RICHARDS

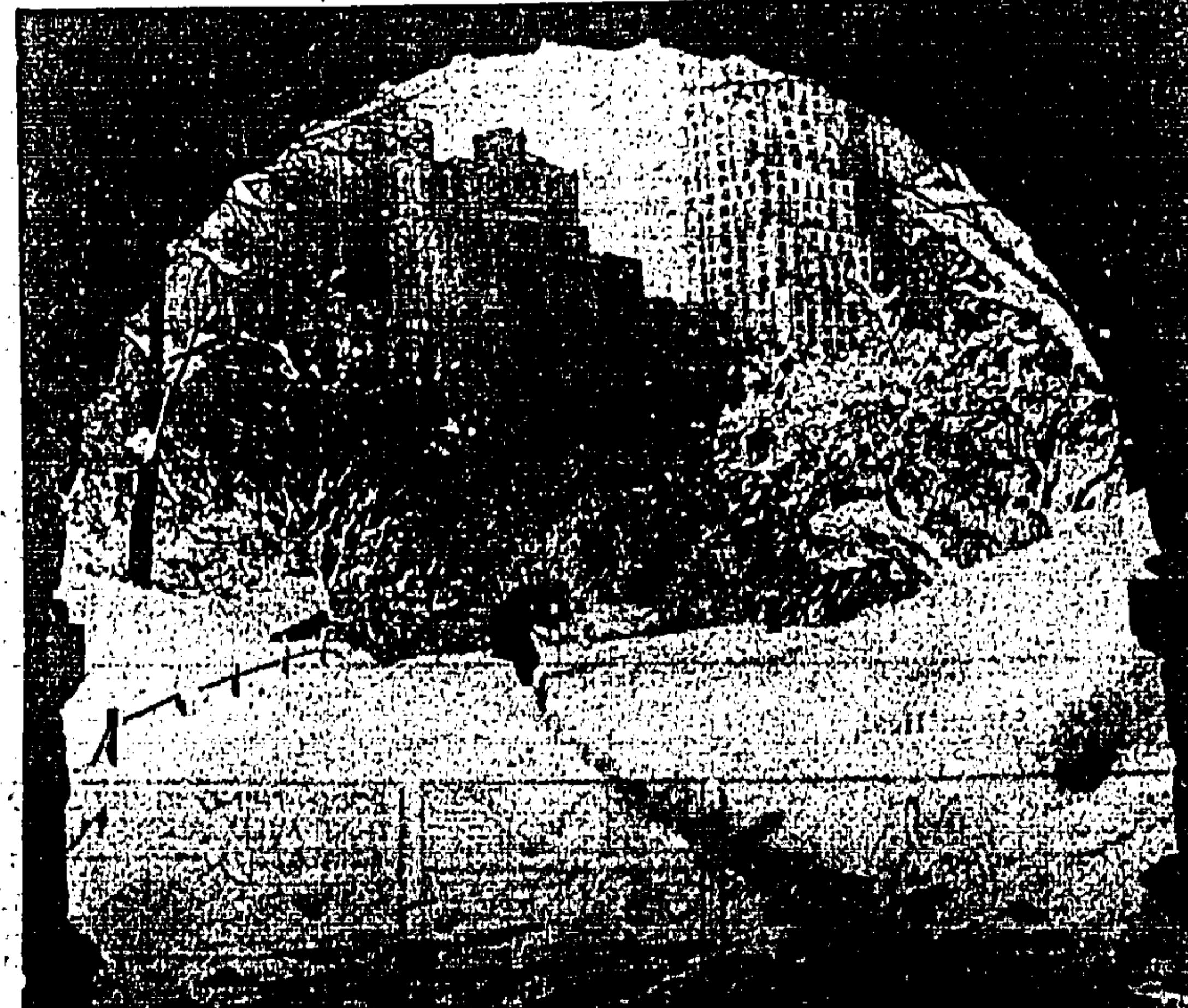
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RECORDING WINTER'S BEAUTY—This photographer, deeply intent on capturing a photograph of New York's Central Park, was completely unaware that another photographer was recording his struggle.

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The Visit of President Roosevelt to the North African Front
Is Described in This Eleventh Instalment of

EISENHOWER WAS MY BOSS

By KAY SUMMERSBY



Inscription: For Kay Summersby, with my thanks and very warm regards—Franklin D. Roosevelt—June 6, 1944

ON the afternoon of November 20, our welcoming party assembled at the El Aouina airstrip. There was the usual waiting period; then, when we heard the nearing sound of engines, every neck stretched upward as five C-54's circled the field.

One cut in for a straight, swift landing. We all strained for a first glimpse of President Roosevelt, but it turned out to be General Marshall. Apparently the Secret Service was taking no chances on enemy fighters knocking off the Number One plane and their Number One boss. Tex, with new lieutenant-colonel leaves on his shoulders, bundled the general into a waiting car. The other four planes landed one right after another; two began unloading passengers and a third seemed to be an empty "spare." The Number Two plane taxied to our end of the field, and stopped. Several men rolled up a ramp. I drove my Cadillac over beside the plane and waited.

"Hey, there!" A burning Irish face appeared at my window, distorted with anger. I recognised Mike Reilly, the Secret Service chief who had been very much in evidence at Amicar. "You're not expecting to drive the President, are you, lady?" he yelled.

"I certainly am. I'm General Eisenhower's driver and he instructed me to drive him and the President to the villa."

"But you can't!"

"And why not?"

The Only Man

HE was on the verge of apoplexy. "No woman ever drives the President," he shouted, thumping on the door. "No woman ever has—or ever will, as long as I'm boss here. Certainly no Limey woman!"

Just as I started to elaborate on my own Irish background, with some very Irish temper, he ran towards the plane. I looked over and saw General Eisenhower standing on the doorway. In the doorway was Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

His personality positively crackled, without as much as a word. That famous smile magnetised every eye. Even General Eisenhower, usually prominent in the foreground, seemed to fade away with the others into a gray backdrop which permitted the spotlight to shine on only one person. To every person standing there, President Roosevelt was the only man on the airstrip.

But the show lost upon me as I spotted Tex leaving General Marshall's car and heading in my direction, followed by a sergeant. "It's all right, Kay," he whispered, reaching my car. "We'll straighten out this mess afterwards. I hate to ask you, but will you show this man how to handle your Cadillac?"

Something w/ a insubordination and loss of face, I jerked the new-type

gears and gave the embarrassed sergeant instructions how to run my car. Then I hurried away and climbed into another limousine, positive that everyone there, including the President of the United States, was laughing at the entire mix-up.

But the comedy had just begun. A Secret Service man came over as they put the President into my Cadillac and asked me to come back to drive the big car. As I climbed into the front seat, Mike Reilly's florid face reappeared. "It's all off again, lady," he whispered. "You can't drive—the sergeant will take over from here!"

Going back to the other car, my heels threatened to stunter the runway.

Butch walked up and stuck his head in the window. "Don't worry about it, Kay. We'll fix everything when we get to the villa. It's just one of those things." He motioned to his companions, Admiral King, and Mr Hopkins, whom I had met previously in Algiers. "How's about going in this car?" he yelled to them.

Introduced

SPEEDING blindly, I gave those three a ride they'll never forget, back to Algiers, through the city, and up the hill.

The guard around General Eisenhower's White House, now a temporary but very literal White House, looked as though the American Army expected the Germans' return to Tunisia any moment. My passengers got out and disappeared inside. Mike Reilly rushed over and said patronisingly, "It's okay for you to get back in your own car now. They've gone in the house."

I looked straight ahead and replied coldly: "I'll stay right here until I get further orders from my Boss. And no big gimp of an Irishman's going to move me!" He stared for a moment, lips set, then walked away.

"Miss Summersby?" It was an officer from the official party. "The President has asked to meet you," he smiled, beckoning me to follow.

Gazing in the rear-view mirror to check shiny nose, I trudged along into the villa. The noisy group of men in one front room were little more than a blur; I was worried about leaving my hat on.

I walked into the library. General Eisenhower, who nodded encouragingly, stood by the fireplace. President Roosevelt sat by the window, half-hidden by his two sons, Elliot and Franklin, acquaintances from my London days. Admiral Lennox stopped talking as the General moved over and said: "Mr President, this is Miss Kay Summersby, the British girl you asked about."

After discussing plans for a battlefield tour upon which the President insisted as part of his visit before proceeding to Cairo, the party broke up. It was only 10.30 but the guest of honour obviously was fatigued by the long day, which had begun aboard battleship *HMS Oran*, continued through a long flight to Tunisia, and a short talk with General Ike, and concluded with a lengthy dinner. He needed rest.

Blushing, the others goodnight, he turned me and spoke in a tone I hadn't heard since childhood: "See you tomorrow, child."

Elliot and Franklin stepped up to drive General Eisenhower back to the Hopkins villa. "Come on, back, Kay," Franklin whispered. Elliott nodded: "We're having little party tonight and it might take your mind off things."

By the time I returned to the White House, leaving the General to a session with the indefatigable

wishes there were time to spend weeks in Tunisia, away from official worries, just resting.

I recognised a kind dismissal and took my leave.

Mike Reilly was bouncing around the driveway. I called him over this time: "I've just been presented to the President."

"Heard you were," he grunted. "And no matter what you say," I added spitefully, "the President himself has asked me to drive him."

With good Irish humour, Mike surrendered. We agreed to bury the hatchet, as we'd be working together.

To La Marsa

SHORTLY afterwards, the President reappeared. They lifted him into the car with a quick efficiency which made the gesture seem wholly natural. His difficulty was ignored by common consent . . . it simply didn't exist.

"I'd like to go over and inspect Elliott's outfit," he told me. "It's quite near, I understand."

We drove to La Marsa, a short ten minutes away, where he transferred to a jeep and rode along the lines of surprised and proud soldiers of Elliott's photo reconnaissance unit. We were back at Amicar before sundown.

As the President went inside for a rest in General Eisenhower's bedroom, I started to leave for mess. Franklin came dashing out, however. "Just a minute, Kay," he grinned. "General Eisenhower says he's ready to leave—and, incidentally you're invited to dinner here tonight."

Outranked from his own quarters and far from a mood for office work, the General asked me to drive over to another nearby villa to visit Harry Hopkins. The latter and Butch immediately proposed a few rubbers of bridge, a welcome suggestion to ease the day's tension. When serving as dummy, I spent the time staring at Harry Hopkins, wondering just how he remained alive; clothes hung on his tall, frail frame as though it were a mere clothes-hanger. General Ike and I won.

Nothing could have pleased me more. Mike, I knew, had already selected a special spot farther along the road; it was perfect for "decence." He would be furious at this change of plans. So I turned off the highway quickly, followed obediently and unquestioningly by all the vehicles behind us. Those in front continued merrily on their way.

By the time we pulled into the wood, Mike had discovered the loss of half of his convoy and came racing up in wild temper. He couldn't say much to his Boss, however, and, instead, busied himself setting up an impenetrable cordon of guards. They were posted in a wide circle, their backs to us, only a few feet apart; weapons at the alert. In this military, bellicose atmosphere, my passengers started their picnic.

"Child," the President said as I got out of the car to join the other drivers, "won't you come back here and have lunch with a dull old man?"

Informal Dinner

WE were a trifle late for dinner—but the occasion couldn't have been more informal. The absence of General Marshall, Admiral King, even Butch, emphasised this was a dinner, not a dinner party. President Roosevelt and his sons joked and talked as easily and naturally as fathers and sons anywhere in the world. Ruth Briggs, an Admiral's daughter, and I comprised the female guests. "Pn" Watson, the Presidential aide, was a delightful companion, fatherly and gently chiding about my initial clash with Mike Reilly.

Sitting only one place away from Mr Roosevelt, who naturally headed the table, was exposed to the fabled FDR charm. But I had to admit it was just that, pure charm: he had it on full, with all stops out.

After discussing plans for a battlefield tour upon which the President insisted as part of his visit before proceeding to Cairo, the party broke up. It was only 10.30 but the guest of honour obviously was fatigued by the long day, which had begun aboard battleship *HMS Oran*, continued through a long flight to Tunisia, and a short talk with General Ike, and concluded with a lengthy dinner. He needed rest.

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(COPRIGHT TO BE CONTINUED
TOMORROW)

POCKET CARTOON



"Something terrible's happened, sir. I got our job mixed up, and we've just demolished a bridge we built last week!"

THE RUSSIAN WINDOW

A glimpse into the Russian mind, assembled by Peter Burchett from Moscow-circulated news in the Soviet sector of Berlin.

BERLIN. THE DOLLAR becomes the main item on a Soviet menu.

THE Soviet restaurant *Intourist* is the best and most class-conscious restaurant in Berlin. It is the only one, except for officers' clubs, where the waiters are immaculately dressed in tails. The only one, except for officers' clubs, where snow-white table napkins are provided.

Picnic Lunch

THE President remarked that no one remembers the Chief of Staff after a war; fame comes only to combat leaders. "I am determined," he said, "that General Marshall shall not be forgotten after this war."

Suddenly, he pointed to a rare grove of trees and remarked: "That's an awfully nice place. Could you pull up there, child, for our little picnic?"

Nothing could have pleased me more. Mike, I knew, had already selected a special spot farther along the road; it was perfect for "decence." He would be furious at this change of plans. So I turned off the highway quickly, followed obediently and unquestioningly by all the vehicles behind us.

By the time we pulled into the wood, Mike had discovered the loss of half of his convoy and came racing up in wild temper. He couldn't say much to his Boss, however, and, instead, busied himself setting up an impenetrable cordon of guards. They were posted in a wide circle, their backs to us, only a few feet apart; weapons at the alert. In this military, bellicose atmosphere, my passengers started their picnic.

"Child," the President said as I got out of the car to join the other drivers, "won't you come back here and have lunch with a dull old man?"

Page From Fiction

STARTLED but pleased, I climbed back and sat down beside him. General Eisenhower remained outside to hand us in delicious chicken sandwiches prepared by Sergeant Hunt. Coffee was the only offering. On the sparse menu, the General was afraid to offer lettuce or other green vegetables to the President in this disease-ridden climate.

The picnic ended, we took the President on a fast tour of areas where great battles had been fought. Then we headed home. He left for Cairo shortly before 11 p.m.

Lying awake in bed that night, I gradually realised what an unusual week end it had been for an ordinary Army driver—British girl talked at that—to be presented to the President and to participate in his social life. In fact, the past day alone had been a page straight from "Lanny Budd" fiction—sitting in the back seat of a limousine parked on Tunisian battlefields, surrounded by armed guards and the Secret Service, served sandwiches with a four-star general named Eisenhower, enjoying a picnic lunch beside the President of the United States.

That is why invalids with bad nerves sit in their soothng baths with plugs in their ears.

I left the sanatorium long before my time was up. I wanted to cure my nerves, but no nerves could stand up to such a cure.

Letter to the editor of the magazine *Krokodil*.

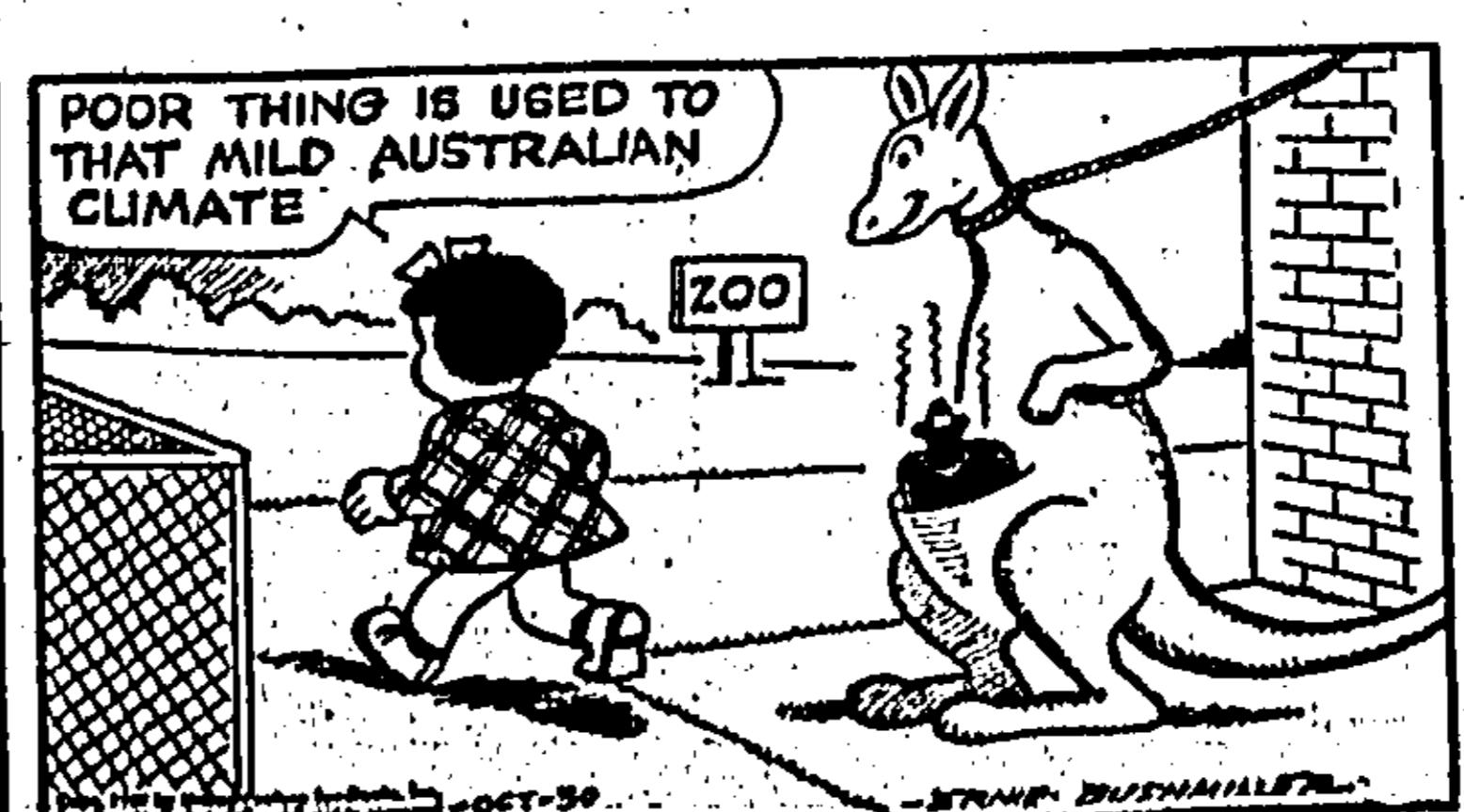
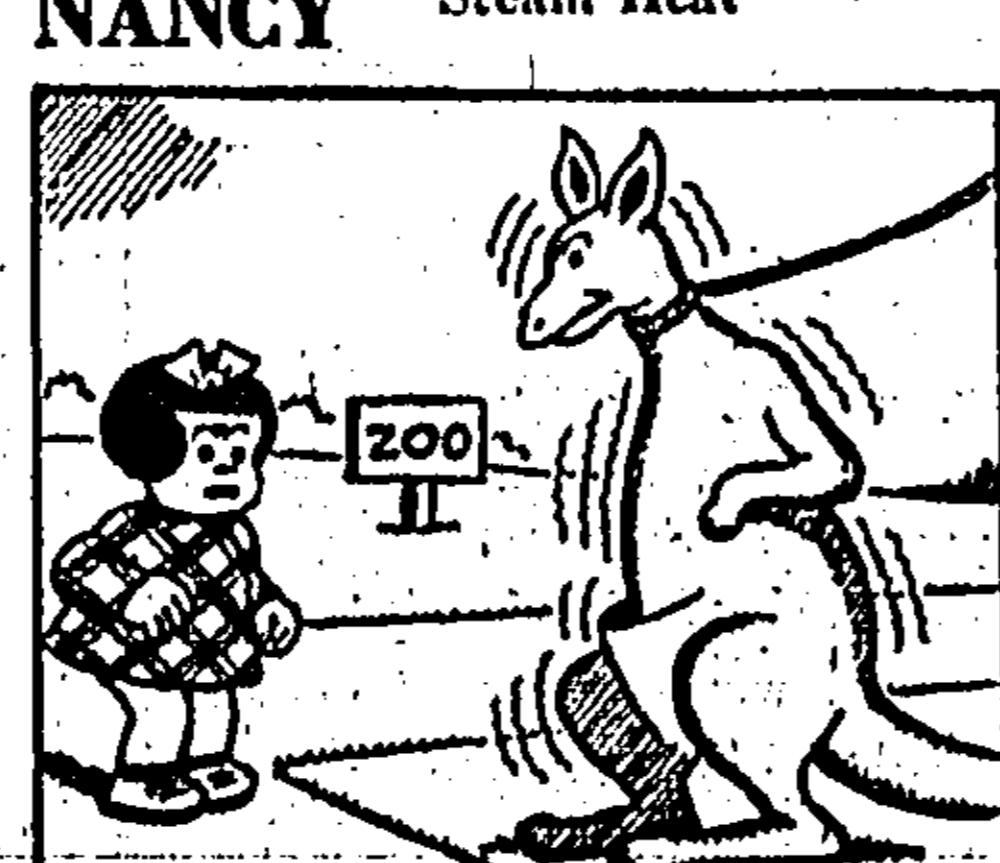
DEAR Krokodil. How are your nerves? If they are good then it is due only to the fact that you did not take a rest cure at Tskaltubo. [A new and much advertised Russian spa specialising in cures for jaded nerves.]

I have just been treated there. My nerves were bad when I arrived, but not as bad as when I left. Alongside the sanatorium, separated from it by only a thin wall, is a cafe-restaurant where visitors sing and dance from early morning until late at night.

That is why invalids with bad nerves sit in their soothng baths with plugs in their ears.

I left the sanatorium long before my time was up. I wanted to cure my nerves, but no nerves could stand up to such a cure.

NANCY Steam Heat



By Ernie Bushmiller



MORATORIUM MONEY LENDING CASE JUDGMENT

Judgment in the Moratorium money-lending case was delivered by Mr Justice Wicks at the Supreme Court this morning.

Plaintiff was Surjan Singh, of 12, Percival Street, Wan Chai, who claimed \$513.58 from Leung Shin-tak and Leung Shin-man, clerks of the Hongkong and China Gas Company, being the balance of principal and interest due to him under a joint and several promissory note dated July 3, 1941. At a previous hearing his Lordship did not accept the terms of settlement named by Singh and ordered the money to be paid into Court.

Arising out of the judgment Singh is to receive \$172, plus four percent per month up to the occupation period plus four percent per annum up to the passing of the Debtor and Creditor Ordinance. The total is \$267.58 and the balance is for the defendants. His Lordship held that payment on loans during the Moratorium shall be four percent per annum and not four percent per month as was the case prewar.

Giving judgment, his Lordship said: This summons arises out of a money-lending transaction in which the plaintiff, having lent the defendants a net sum of \$172 on July 3, 1941, now claims the sum of \$513.58, being made up of the capital plus three amounts of interest, the first covering a period before the Japanese occupation, the second for the period of the occupation and the last during the period of the Moratorium.

By Proclamation No. 6 of 1945 (the Moratorium Proclamation) a moratorium was proclaimed in respect of all debts. Article 5 providing that:

"During the period of the moratorium, no rights, remedies or powers in respect of any debt effected thereby shall, at any time, be exercised, or enforced by, process of law, solely by reason of non-payment as a result of the provisions of this proclamation; but nothing herein shall prevent the voluntary payment of my debt."

The Moratorium Proclamation was incorporated in the First Schedule to the Law of Amendment (Transitional Provisions) Ordinance, 1948 and in November, 1948, by the exercise of a power contained in the Ordinance, the Moratorium Proclamation was repealed, but before this, in June 1948, the Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Ordinance, 1948 (Ordinance No. 24 of 1948) was passed, controlling the amount of interest chargeable on a "debt" during the "occupation period." This Ordinance, until the repeal of the Moratorium Proclamation, had a very restricted application, and the plaintiff, now that he is able to proceed by process of law, demands in his Particulars of Claim: Interest:

INTEREST RATES

Interest from 3/7/45 to 3/1/42 at 4% per month for 6 months: \$41.28;

interest for the occupation period at \$0.00 per \$150.00 per year for 3 years 8 months: \$25.10; and

interest from 3/9/45 to 3/1/49 at 4% per month for 40 months: \$275.20.

The cause was set down for hearing on January 7, 1949, when the plaintiff appeared in person and, in the absence of the defendants, stated that he had been paid by them the sum of \$520.58, being the amount of the claim i.e. \$170 principal, plus \$341.50 interest and \$7 costs.

The plaintiff's application to withdraw the summons was refused, it being ruled, in view of the rate of interest claimed and paid under the third heading, that the money received be paid into court, and the cause stand adjourned for the purpose of determining whether or not the transaction be re-opened under section 2 (1) of the Money-Lenders Ordinance, 1911.

After the adjournment Mr Russ, who in the meantime had been instructed by the plaintiff, attempted to lead certain evidence relating to facts, which I will refer to later, and then submitted that the correct amount of interest accruing during the Moratorium period was 4% per month, a rate which has not been questioned either before the occupation period or after; further that for the purposes of deciding whether or not a rate of interest is reasonable within the meaning of Section 2 (1) of the Money-Lenders Ordinance, 1911, one must have regard solely to the circumstances existing at the time that the transaction was entered into (in this case July 3, 1941), and if a rate of interest was reasonable then, it must be so during the Moratorium period.

RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT

Ordinance No. 24 of 1948, has a retrospective effect in that it regulates the rate of interest chargeable on certain debts during a period of time which, as a whole, is past, and consequently affects rights which had accrued but which could not be exercised by reason of the Moratorium Proclamation. In Section 2 (1) of the Ordinance a "debt" is defined as "any sum of money payable by virtue of a legal obligation and recoverable when due by process of law." "occupation period" means "in relation to the Colony, the period between December, 25, 1941 and September, 1, 1945 and includes any part of such period" and the provision for computing interest on a "debt" during the "occupation period" is contained in Section 10 which provides that:

"Save as hereinafter provided, all payments which have become due and payable before the date of this Proclamation or which will become due and payable on any day before the beginning of the fourth day of September nineteen hundred and fourteen in respect of any bill of exchange (being a cheque or bill in demand) which was drawn before the beginning of the fourth day of August, nineteen hundred and fourteen, or in respect of any negotiable instrument (not being a bill of exchange) dated before that time, or in respect of any contract made before that time, shall be deemed to be due and payable on a day one calendar month after the day payment is made or on the fourth day of September, nineteen hundred and fourteen whichever is the later date, instead of on the day on which the payment originally became due; but payments so postponed shall, if not otherwise carrying interest, and if specific demand is made for payment and payment is refused, carry interest until payment as from the fourth day of August, nineteen hundred and fourteen; if they become due and payable before that day, and as from the date on which

they become due and payable, on and after that day, at the Bank of England rate current on the seventh day of August, nineteen hundred and fourteen; but nothing in this Proclamation shall prevent payments being made before the expiration of the month for which they were so postponed."

Lord Rendell considered the general effect of a moratorium on a claim for interest but it is seen that the Royal Proclamation under consideration in this case provided for interest, so the remarks are obiter dicta. On the general effect at p. 977, he said:—

"What is the position? The plaintiffs have lent their money to be repaid on a given date; the war ensues; a financial crisis arises in consequence; the State intervenes in order to preserve the financial equilibrium; it then says that those who cannot pay may postpone their payment for a month. That is a privilege given to the debtor. The creditor had a right to demand repayment of the money; the State said, 'You shall not avail yourself of that right; we will extend the time to the debtor, and give him a further month.' That being so, and assuming, as I have already said, that in this case there is no contract that in the event of the money not being repaid by the due date it shall bear interest at a rate agreed between the parties, it is unreasonable to assume that the State intended that the person who gets the privilege must pay for it? If it is said that the debtor was to pay only at the rate at which money was being lent before the date of the proclamation, that might very probably be a rate wholly different from, and lower than, that prevailing when the financial crisis supervened. It was for the purpose of meeting the difficulties created by the financial crisis that this proclamation was passed. In my judgment the reasonable view is that a person who got the extension and had not agreed the rate of interest, if he did not pay at due date, must pay the rate of interest then prevailing."

WELL FOUNDED

The claim for interest during a moratorium, therefore, seems to be reasonably well founded and there being nothing in the Moratorium Proclamation which prevents interest accruing, there appears to be no doubt that it should be allowed, but at what rate should it be allowed? Applying Lord Rendell's dicta, it seems that it should be 4% per annum because that was the "rate of interest then prevailing" on this class of debts, at the date when the moratorium was declared, a rate assessed by the Legislature some years following the "occupation period" after ample time had been enjoyed for a consideration of conditions at that time. The difficulty is that it seems to be settled law that where no rate of interest can be said to be applicable to a debt, the onus is on the person seeking to establish his claim; he has a right to go before a Court and claim it, but he has no legal right to any definite amount—see Swindon Eady L. J. in Coats' case.

Mr Russ has addressed me on behalf of the plaintiff and submits that the rate is 4% per month, but, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, and in particular to the assessment of interest by the Legislature covering a period so nearly related in time to the period in question, I assess the rate of interest at 4% per annum for the moratorium period.

SAME PRINCIPLES

The same principles I have set out apply to the transaction after the end of the moratorium period and I assess the rate of interest from that time to the date of the taking out of the summons at 4% per annum, i.e. an amount of about \$31.48, making an estimated total due of \$267.58. This matter is before the Court by virtue of the Money-Lenders Ordinance, 1911, and I reopen the transaction on the ground that the demand for 4% per month interest during the moratorium period is harsh and unconscionable.

I have said I would refer to certain evidence relating to facts led by Mr Russ. Mr Russ called the plaintiff, who deposed that although he stated at the hearing on January 7, 1949 that he had been paid his claim in full and had received \$520.58, and even although he had complied with the order to pay the amount received into Court by paying in \$520.58, in fact the terms of the settlement was the payment of \$200.

Mr Russ made no secret of the possible effect of this evidence, if accepted, Section 2 (1) of the Money-Lenders Ordinance, 1911 allows this Court to re-open a settlement only when it is "harsh and unconscionable, or is otherwise such as a court of equity would give relief." If an enquiry is found that the alleged settlement figure of \$200 is not obtained then there is no record. Consequently, if this Court came to the conclusion that 4% per annum during the Moratorium period was the proper rate, then such a conclusion had no effect because the plaintiff has charged just under 4% per annum.

Mr Russ further submitted that the rule is that a plaintiff may withdraw an action at any time subject to the payment of costs. The result of all this is that money-lenders would be at liberty to demand, and take out summonses, claiming interest during the Moratorium period at what Mr Russ informs me is the usual rate for pre-occupation and post-moratorium transactions, i.e. compound interest at 4% per month (about 60% per annum). I make no comment on these submissions made by Mr Russ because I accept the statement of the plaintiff made on January 7, 1949, and I do not accept his statement, made after the adjournment, that he has only received \$200.

There may be an explanation such as that, after the Order was made on 7th January, 1945 and compiled with respect of payment into Court, the plaintiff attempted to

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



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PWD TRIAL:

Important Admission By Witness

A prosecution witness admitted before Mr Justice Reynolds at the Criminal Sessions this morning, when the trial of two employees of the Public Works Department on charges of theft of Government stores continued, that it had been the practice for many years past for clerks on the staff of the electrical department of the Wan Chai workshop to be put down as chargemen and electricians, and paid for jobs on which they had not been working at all.

This statement was elicited during cross-examination by Mr V. J. L. D'Alton (Counsel for Spary).

Accused are Kwok Kwong, 47, foreman, and Austin Spary, 50, electrical inspector, Grade 1, both of the Public Works Department. They are charged on 10 counts of larceny by public servant, one of obtaining money by false pretences from the steward of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club and one of conspiracy to defraud the Government of money.

The measure, the first to reach the Senate floor this season, carries a US\$25,000 pay raise and an increase of US\$50,000 in the President's tax-free expenses. It also would raise the pay of the Vice-President, Senator Alben Barkley, and the Speaker of the House, Representative Sam Rayburn, by US\$10,000 each, and they also would get US\$10,000 expense accounts. Their present salaries are US\$20,000 a year.—United Press.

Mr Percy Chen, instructed by Mr C. A. Russ, is appearing for Kwok, and Spary is represented by Mr V. J. L. D'Alton, instructed by Mr P. J. Griffiths. Appearing for the prosecution is Mr A. Hooton, Crown Counsel, assisted by Chief Insp. J. Johnston, and Det. Sub-Inspect. D. C. MacPhee, of the Special Branch.

The Jury empanelled comprises four men and three women.

The witness, Ho Tling, foreman of the electrical department of the Wan Chai workshop, said the place was "in a mess" when he returned there after the re-occupation of the Colony.

Further, not only is the evidence of Mr Russ has attempted to lead inadmissible on the ground that it tends to contradict a positive statement made by his client to this Court, but also because the only question before the Court after the adjournment was whether or not the transaction be opened under Section 2 (1) of the Money-Lenders Ordinance, 1911. The plaintiff must overcome any difficulties he has created as best he can and I order that the sum in Court be paid out, as to an amount computed in the way I have indicated to the plaintiff, and any balance to the defendants.

SOLICITOR EXPLAINS

After judgment had been delivered, Mr Russ said: May I mention that during the argument in this case in taking certain illustrations there was a passage which, if it is taken from its context, may look as though there was some criticism of the Hongkong Bank with regard to payment of interest on current accounts. That thought was very far from my mind at the time and I had no intention of criticising the Bank. This Bank has really gone out of its way and shown extraordinary consideration to its depositors and customers.

Any attempt to suggest that it has behaved in a most unhelpful and ungenerous manner towards its depositors and customers would be most unfair. I am sure your Lordship will agree with me that there is nothing in the way I was conducting the case which would justify anyone in drawing any such conclusion.

His Lordship: Yes Mr Russ, I agree. I understand your remarks to be by way of illustration only and purely hypothetical.

BANK STATEMENT

The following statement was released by the Hongkong Bank, until the passing of the Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Ordinance 1948, the question of the interest payable on a pre-occupation debt had not been determined and the interest that might be paid thereafter could not be paid out. Notwithstanding some ambiguity in the wording of the Ordinance the Bank fully recognises its obligation which is in accord with the terms of Section 10 (3) that where interest was provided by agreement or statute or otherwise it will pay interest for the occupation period at the due rate on all credit balances, whether such rate was one percent or more. That the Bank would, as suggested, plead that payment of interest would be against public policy.

Mr Russ further submitted that the rule is that a plaintiff may withdraw an action at any time subject to the payment of costs. The result of all this is that money-lenders would be at liberty to demand, and take out summonses, claiming interest during the Moratorium period at what Mr Russ informs me is the usual rate for pre-occupation and post-moratorium transactions, i.e. compound interest at 4% per month (about 60% per annum). I make no comment on these submissions made by Mr Russ because I accept the statement of the plaintiff made on January 7, 1949, and I do not accept his statement, made after the adjournment, that he has only received \$200.

There may be an explanation such as that, after the Order was made on 7th January, 1945 and compiled with respect of payment into Court, the plaintiff attempted to

Radio Hongkong

H.I.T. Programme Summary: 8.00. A Caribbean Programme; 8.30. Chinese Cantonese by Radio. 8.45. Lee Wal Lam & Son's Love Studio; 8.50. Xavier Cugat and His Waldorf Astoria Orchestra; 9.00. World News and News Review; 9.15. London Relay; 9.15. The Sporting Review; 9.30. Variety Hand Box from the People's Palace, London (N.C.T.C.); 9.45. From the Editorial Studio, London (N.C.T.C.). 10.00. "The King" by Dorothy Lay; 10.15. "Duetts" (H.N.C.T.C.); 10.30. Music from the Film "Fantasia"; 10.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.55. Music from the Film "Fantasia"; 11.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.15. Music from the Film "Fantasia"; 11.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 12.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 1.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 2.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 3.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 4.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 5.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 6.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 7.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 8.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 9.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.30. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.45. "The King in the Kitchens"; 10.55. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.00. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.15. "The King in the Kitchens"; 11.30. "The King in the

Tomorrow's League Cricket By "Recorder"

SCORPIONS WILL BE HARD TO BEAT

Recreio meet the Scorpions at Chater Road tomorrow in the match of the League Cricket season. Neither team has left any stone unturned toward putting out its most select assortment of cricketers and there isn't any other League match tomorrow, with the possible exception of Army v. University at Sookunpoor, that can serve as a sufficient counter-attraction for the follower of local cricket.

The Scorpions are all complete with their bowlers. Even their two "stars," Clague and Pearce, who lead the bowling averages, are turning out and will very probably be required before the afternoon is over.

Recreio, for the first time this season, leads now both the team batting and bowling averages, supplanting Army in the latter after a keen struggle through the first half of the season.

Yet Recreio will not face tomorrow's match with any great degree of confidence. The Scorpions will be stronger in both batting and bowling than they were against University last Saturday.

There are seven strong bats in the team and five respectable bowlers. If the worse comes to the worst against "Spotty" Pereira and Dr. Gosano, there is always the saving factor of one or two batsmen standing up to the Recreio attack, as did Frank Howorth in the first match between the two teams at King's Park.

Recreio had then won by 14 runs, being largely saved by the fact that Dr. Gosano had kept his end of the wicket for 70 while the rest of the all-star batting collapsed.

Recreio will put into the attack tomorrow Dr. H. L. Ozorio, one of the Colony's best spin bowlers. Also back in the team is E. M. L. Soares, another old First Division standby.

The addition of the noted "Ozo" should give Recreio the strongest bowling side in the league for their remaining matches of the season.

Predications on the outcome of tomorrow's Chater Road match can only be wild. Anything can happen. There may be two centuries or both sides may be out under three figures.

TEST FOR THE ARMY

Tomorrow's match at Sookunpoor will be more a test for the Army than for University. On paper, despite J. M. Gosano and the crackjack University fielding, the Army, with one more good bowler in the side, should win.

Governor's Cup Teams Selected

The following have been selected to represent the H.K.A.F. against the Chinese Federation in the Governor's Cup, second match, to be played on Sunday, at Caroline Hill ground at 3.30 p.m.:

Leek (St. Joseph's); Hughes (Army); Tozer (Navy); Weatherhead (Army); Craighend (Army) (Capt.); Santos (St. Joseph's); Xavier (St. Joseph's); Muller (Club); Kow (Army); Kierman (Club); Ramskill (Army).

Reserves.—Portrum (RAF); Souther (RAF) (Portrum Club); Marsden (Army); Waller (Club); Team Manager, Capt. H. J. Chisholm; Trainer, Eric Keen.

Players and reserves are requested to report to their Team Manager in the dressing room at 2.45 p.m. Jersey, etc., will be supplied by the Association.

FEDERATION TEAM

The following will represent the Federation:

Yue Yiu-tak (SCAA); Hau Yung-sing (SCAA); Tsui Kam-hung (SCAA); Tang Sum (KMB); Kwok Ying-keung (Klub); Lau Chung-sang (SCAA); Ho Ying-fung (SCAA); Leo Chung-fat (KMB); Tang Yee-kit (KMB); Chan Kam-hol (SCAA); Tse Kam-ho (SCAA).

Reserves.—Tam Kwan-kon (KMB); Tam Chun-fai (KMB); Lee Ping-chiu (Klub); Chan Kam-hung (CAA); Mau Cheung-wing (CAA); Hung Hing-yuk (KMB); Tam Woon-cheung (KMB); Lo Wah-sing (CAA).

Jerseys, etc., will be supplied by the Federation.

Referees will be W. Gaffey and the linesmen A. F. Willis and J. G. Padley.

Interport Rugger

Word has been received that a Shanghai Interport rugger side is expected to come down in February and it is hoped to play the Interport game on Saturday, February 19.

If time permits, the Shanghai side will also turn out, probably on the following Monday, against a Combined Services XV.

The following week should see the arrival of a United Services XV from Malaya to play a series of games. At present the arrangements are that they will meet a Club side, a Hongkong United Services XV and have a final game against the Colony. This is good news for the Colonies rugger enthusiasts and should go a long way to making the game even more popular than it has become this season.

On account upon these visits, the Board's fixtures are arranged as follows:

January 22: Winners QF v. Rovers.

February 5: 1st Round Internationals.

February 12: Club Interport XV v. United Services XV.

February 19: Interport v. Shanghai.

February 20: Malayan Services XV v. either Club, or Colony XV.

March 1: 2nd Round Internationals.

Saturday, January 17: Interport XV v. Army and Club at Sookunpoor is a crucial one as can readily be seen from the Quadrangular Tournament Table below:

January 17: Interport XV v. Army.

Army v. Interport XV.

Interport XV v. Army.

Interport XV v. Interport XV.

West Indies v. East Zone

Allahabad, Jan. 13.—East Zone, after losing three wickets for only 14 runs at the start of the four-day match against the West Indies, recovered well here today and at the close of play had made 245 for the loss of six wickets.

Prior Jones, West Indies' fast bowler, was in deadly form in his opening spell of eight overs, claiming three wickets for 12 runs.

A fourth wicket century stand between Frank (123) and Roy (59) retrieved the position for East Zone.

Frank, missed when 55, completed his century in just over two hours and a quarter.

John Goddard, the tourists' captain, had won the toss, but put the home side in to bat first on the matting wicket. With five men indisposed, the West Indies called upon a local player to act as 12th man.

A player is being flown from the West Indies shortly to bolster the team for its remaining matches.—Reuter.

NO FOOTLIGHTS!



This is not part of an outdoor show, but Dolores Gray, American actress appearing in London, seems to be putting on a good performance.

In an actors-versus-musicians soccer match, the boys persuaded Dolores to start things off with the opening kickoff. Intently watching at left is band leader Duncan Whyte.

Bidding Flares Up For Wilf Mannion

London, Jan. 13.—The bidding for the services of Wilf Mannion, the Middlesbrough English International inside-left, has flared up again but there is still a great deal of mystery surrounding the pending transfer of this famous player, who, in refusing to resign for his club, has not played this season.

The latest club in quest of Mannion's transfer is Aston Villa. Mr W. J. Smith, Villa's secretary, stated that Mannion had agreed to be transferred to the Villa and that the club, being prepared to pay the record £25,000, had decided to communicate with Middlesbrough.

At that time, it was stated that Mannion would go to Villa, a business career in the Midlands may be arranged for him. He is at present employed by a firm of agricultural implement manufacturers in Oldham.

This was short-lived for the very same evening it is understood that Mannion refused to sign for Aston Villa.

Another source gave the reason for the breakdown of negotiations as being the fact that the Villa were not prepared to pay the fee requested, while yet another said that both Mannion and Aston Villa were agreeable but that Middlesbrough were not keen on such a move.

The reason put forward for this turn of events was that Aston Villa and Middlesbrough are both near the bottom of the First Division table and need points badly.

With Mannion on their side the chances of Villa would be improved perhaps at the chances of Midland clubs.

Egan said Louis told him he would like to meet the winner of a match between Ezzard Charles and Lee Savold.

Egan made the announcement at a dinner meeting at which lightweight Ray Williams of Trenton, New Jersey, received the Edward J. Nell Award as the man who did the most for boxing in 1948.

The award was named in memory of the former Associated Press war correspondent and boxing writer who was killed in Spain during the Spanish civil war.

Williams defended his title three times last year. He knocked out Jesse Flores and Beau Jack and outpointed Enrique Bolanos.—Associated Press.

Mannion, refusing to re-sign for Middlesbrough at the beginning of this season, and later declining to go to any one of several clubs seeking his transfer, has played no serious football since the Football Association tour of the Continent last May.

So one of the most extraordinary soccer situations in the history of the game still goes on.—Reuter.

MATCH POSTPONED

The Junior League cricket match between the Indian Recreation Club and the Air Force, which was to have been played at Mt. Tak on Saturday, January 15, has been postponed to a later date.

RECREIO 2ND XI

The following will represent Club do Recreio 2nd XI in a friendly match on Saturday, January 15, at K.C.C. and will be represented by V. F. White (Capt.), S. C. Trueman, V. C. Seymour, A. White, W. H. Cowle, G. R. Rose, D. C. White, E. A. G. Hancock, H. E. Matthews, E. A. Guest and P. Kennedy.

KCC 1ST XI

The following will represent K.C.C. 1st XI will be represented by E. E. Lee, E. C. Fincher, N. Hart Baker, G. H. Barnard, R. H. M. Brown, W. Davidson, G. H. Taylor, R. Maud, F. Hewitt, V. C. Bond in their match against Craighend at K.C.C. on Saturday.

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• FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS •

• MCKENNEY ON BRIDGE

Good Defence Can Defeat This Bid

By WILLIAM E. MCKENNEY

This is the third hand that I have taken from the new book entitled "Right Through the Pack," published by Stuyvesant House of New York City. It is not a textbook but the most fascinating book I have ever read. The bridge book I have ever read. The bridge book I have ever read. The book comes to life, and each card tells a story, making 52 stories in all.

This is supposedly the story of the seven of diamonds, but I prefer to call it the story of Professor Hardacre, a character mentioned frequently throughout the book. He is a professor in higher mathematics at the university and a great student of the game of bridge. Can you picture any defense that might defeat four no trump on today's hand? The professor found a way.

On the opening lead of the three of diamonds the singleton king had to be played from dummy. If East had taken that trick with the ace,

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|--------|------|
| KQJ2 | | | |
| ♥ A Q J 3 | | | |
| ♦ K 6 5 | | | |
| ♣ Q 3 2 | | | |
| A J 10 9 | N | E | |
| ♦ K 10 9 | S | | |
| ♦ 3 | | | |
| A J 9 7 | Dealer | | 7 2 |
| ♦ A 10 | | | |
| ♦ 7 4 2 | | | |
| ♦ 10 5 4 | | | |
| ♦ A K 6 4 | | | |
| Rubber—Neither vul. | | | |
| South | West | North | East |
| 1 ♠ | Pass | 1 ♥ | 3 ♦ |
| Pass | Pass | 3 ♠ | Pass |
| 3 N.T. | Pass | Pass | 4 ♦ |
| Pass | Pass | 4 N.T. | Pass |
| Opening—♦ 3 | | | 27 |

DUMB-BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE



UNUSUAL ANGLES:

PRINCE HAS BLOOD OF CHARLEMAGNE TO SMITH

By ROBERT MUSEL

PRINCESS Elizabeth's baby, Prince Charles of Edinburgh, has a fabulous ruby which adorns the blood line almost frightening in its imperial state crown. And his fairy tale wife, Joan, the Fair Maid of Kent.

The little prince has in his veins the blood of Alfred the Great, of Charlemagne, of St Louis and the great Barbarossa.

He has as direct ancestors Richard the Lion Hearted and The Cid. In his family tree, which is minutely charted back to 1066, the year William the Conqueror crossed from Normandy, there is the romance and the triumph and the tragedy of Europe's royalty.

Pictures Adorn Walls

In the vast halls of Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle and the other royal homes, when he grows old enough, the Prince will see the portraits of his noble forbearers.

There is the Black Prince, the mighty warrior, who brought back

There are the kings of England and the fierce kings of Scotland—Queen Elizabeth, Henry VIII, hero of many a martial fray. There is Mary, the tragic Queen of Scots, and Charles I, who also died under the executioner's axe.

The cold beauties of the mediaeval

courts are there—Berengaria of

Portugal, Blanche of Bavaria and

Sophie-Charlotte of Prussia and the

beautiful Grand Duchess Marie of

Russia.

Smith Gets In

There are many other kings in the collateral lines—Ferdinand of Rumania, Czar Nicholas I of Russia, Frederick the Great of Germany, Alfonso of Spain, alliances by marriages with the crowned heads of Denmark and Norway and the royal lines of every other ruling house.

And—astonishingly—a fellow named Smith! Queen Elizabeth's grandfather, the 13th Earl of Stratmore, married Frances Dora Smith, whose father was plain Oswald Smith. So duly recorded in Burke's Peerage among the kings and princes is the name most associated with the common man.

United Press.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. Hair of the angora goat or cloth made from it. 2. Baden-Baden, Germany. 3. The golf course at the Ancient Club of St Andrews, Scotland. 4. Of the shells of minute animals who lived centuries ago. 5. As it should be, correct. 6. Sir Francis Drake.

YOURS BIRTHDAY By STELLA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

BORN today, you have an unusually attractive personality and many things seem to come your way without your asking for them. Not

that tremendous success will be handed to you on the tradition of silver platter—but you may achieve the comfortable mediocrities with the minimum of work. If, however, you want to make an outstanding success, you will have to work hard like the rest of the world.

You are very ambitious and want not only money, but social positions. This is, perhaps, more true of you than of sex. Don't make the mistake of sitting back and waiting for things to come your way. If things are slow in developing, it may be your own fault for not getting out and starting them.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Don't sit back and watch the world go by. You may achieve startling results through initiative.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—An emotional day. You may meet a new and interesting acquaintance if travelling, who may become a real friend.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Don't be oversensitive. Things may appear rather worse than they actually are. Cultivate optimism.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—You may avoid a loss if you are careful in the selection of your companions. Be circumspect.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Perhaps an exciting day. Don't be too surprised at a new romance. Even love at first sight, perhaps!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—If confused, seek inspiration from spiritual thoughts. Make

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

LATHSOME, vital, dynamic Mrs Wretch is lending her support to the campaign for organising the entire youth of England in Regional Youth Units, with uniformed Shock Scouts and Troops of Storm Elfs.

"It," she said at Woking, "is the State is good enough to look after everyone from cradle to grave, then, in return, all must spend their lives in national service. Every child, on reaching its sixth birthday, should be enrolled in one of the Tot's Brigades. This would relieve the mothers of family duties, and release them for the Mothers Corps."

Tennyson's joke

BY the way, when Tennyson's mother lived at Woking, he sent her a postcard, asking her to telephone him the result of a Cambridgehire. He wrote, jestingly: "If you're Woking call me early, call me early, mother dear." He used the line later in a poem, but an editor, who thought it was ungrammatical, changed Woking to Woking.

Hill towns

Hill towns are very picturesque, but inconvenient.

(Article on travel.)

THE chief inconvenience, from a modern point of view, is that, owing to lack of space, they cannot be expanded and developed to death. Take Loo, on its high plateau. They say that Charlemagne would recognise it today. The Cathedral (with a square apse) is where his predecessor stood. And the predecessor was built over a Roman temple. The great Cave de Saint-Vincent still gapes from the side of the hill. And traveller by railway can still climb the hundreds of ancient steps up to the town. The gates are 700 years old. I dare say Saint-Just's ghost might today find the tavern where he used to drink.

United Press.

Tail-piece

She said she met a sailor and drank too much port.

(Morning paper.)

EVIDENTLY a jovial mariner like the one who shouted to the barmen: "A port in every wife is my motto."

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Cripps Again Calls For More Exports

London, Jan. 13.—One of Britain's major tasks in 1949 would be to expand her exports to hard currency markets—particularly the United States, Canada, Argentina, Belgium and Switzerland—Sir Stafford Cripps, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said today.

There was still need for great effort, but the country was on the right path, "the path that really does lead to the summit," he told a press conference.

The apparent visible adverse balance for December was £20,000,000, a decrease of £2,200,000 compared with November and the lowest for any month since January, 1947.

The apparent visible adverse balance for the whole year was £432 million, more than four-sevenths of which occurred in the first half of the year.

Calling for still greater efforts to earn dollars, Sir Stafford said: "We cannot and should not expect the United States to bear the whole burden of reconstruction and recovery."

The index of all industrial production in Britain reached a new peak in October, at a level 27 per cent above the 1946 monthly average.

Civilian employment at the end of 1948 stood at the record level of 19,200,000.

No significant further increase could be counted on as a means of increasing the volume of industrial production, and the emphasis had shifted to methods of securing a larger output per head.—Reuters.

Japs To Raise Steel Production

Tokyo, Jan. 13.—The Japanese government is considering the operation of additional furnaces to raise steel production by 110,000 tons in the next fiscal year, beginning April 1st.

Next target for the year would thus be 1,090,000 tons, compared to the original target of 1,000,000.

The increase will be in line with General MacArthur's nine-point economic programme submitted to the Japanese government in December.

Government officials have already appealed to MacArthur's headquarters for the use of the Hirohata plant of the Japanese Iron Manufacturing Company, which has been earmarked for reparations.—United Press.

LONDON MARKET

London, Jan. 13.—Prices in the rubber market here today closed as follows:

January/March 11 pence per

April/June 11 1/2 pence per

July/September 11 1/2 pence per

December 11 1/2 pence per

United Press.

HONGKONG SHARES

The turnover on the Stock Exchange this morning totalled \$280,000. Transactions and noon prices were:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES GOVT. LOANS \$10,000 & 103 1/2

BANKS HSBC 1120

East Asiatic 112

Union 725 733 50 730

Underwriters 0

DOCKS & HARBOURS (O) 131 20 1500 20 20%

Dock 20 1500 20 20%

LAND, ETC. 15.60 16 500 15.60

HK Hotel 15.60 16 500 15.60

Star Ferry 20.40 21 1000 14.90

C. Light 14.90 1500 14.90

2000 1500 15

333 1000 1000

Electric 38% 2012 1000 1000 1000

Mackay, Electric Cement 40 4112 200 50 20%

Rope 20 2000 200 20

STORES, ETC. (O) 42

Dairy (New) 61 62 200 61 61

Watson (Old) 57 58 200 58 58

COTTONS Ewo 824 100 0 10.00

United Press.

N.Y. FOREIGN EXCHANGE

| Argentine Peso (Official) | \$10.2077 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Argentine Peso (Unofficial) | 2000 |
| Australia | 3220 |
| Belgium | 52.71/16 |
| Canada | 2220 |
| Chile | 500 |
| England | 1111 |
| France | 3024 |
| India | 1450 |
| Mexico | 1212 |
| New Zealand | 4212 |
| Peru | 404 |
| Portugal | 404 |
| South Africa | 4031 |
| Sweden | 2763 |
| Switzerland | 2425 |
| Uruguay | 3010 |
| Venezuela | 3010 |
| Netherlands | 3770 |
| Batavia | 4725 |
| Singapore | 4725 |
| Hongkong | 2225 |
| Shanghai | 2225 |

Evatt Praised Attlee's Policy

ONE OF THE GREATEST DECISIONS IN HISTORY

Perth, Jan. 13.—The Attlee Government's policy to give "complete freedom" to India, Pakistan and Ceylon was described by Dr Herbert Evatt, the Australian Minister for External Affairs, today as "one of the greatest decisions in history." It had changed the entire outlook in the South East Asian region, he added.

"Australia's outlook towards these three nations is the same as the British. We have great and good friends among the leaders of those three countries," he told a summer school here. "These friendships must be confirmed and strengthened so that South East Asia can be made free from aggression, either physical or ideological."

No great conflict existed, he said, between the Australian and British attitudes towards Indonesia.

Turning to last autumn's Commonwealth Premiers' talks, Dr Evatt said: "One of the most important decisions of the conference has not yet been announced, but we hope it will be made public in the near future."

Saying it was wrong to suppose that Australia attached no importance to her ties with Britain, Dr Evatt said that Mr John Curtin, the Prime Minister, went to London in 1944 to secure closer co-operation and the establishment of an Empire Secretariat, but the only support he received was from New Zealand.

Exploring Means For China Peace

Washington, Jan. 13.—The Chinese Ambassador, Dr Wellington Koo, said today that he had discussed with the acting Secretary of State, Mr Robert Lovett, the "whole situation" regarding peace in China.

Dr Koo said the Chinese Government will "continue to pursue its peace policy until it succeeds or until it is clearly proved that the Communists do not in any way care for the sentiments of the whole Chinese people for peace."

The Chinese Ambassador declined to comment on a report that president Chiang Kai-shek's government may move to Formosa. He declined to confirm or deny that he had received any communications from the United States Government.

Press reports from London said the United States and Britain were working on a reply to the Chinese peace overtures.

Dr Koo said: "The Chinese Government looks on the whole situation as important not only to China but to the peace of the entire world." He said his government is not seeking mediation of the conflict in China, but is exploring various possibilities for peace.

WISHES OF PEOPLE

Asked if he had delivered any communication from the Chinese Government, Dr Koo replied that he had not. He said he discussed with Mr Lovett the general Chinese situation. He said: "The Chinese Government, in response to the wishes of the Chinese people, has made known its desire for the restoration of peace in China and in fact has made peace overtures plain." He said the overtures were obvious in the message of President Chiang Kai-shek on New Year's Day and in more recent statement by Premier Sun Fo.

The Chinese Ambassador said the Nationalist Government did not ask the United States to act as mediator in the Chinese civil war but merely sought an expression of American views.

Pressed on whether Mr Lovett handed him a note from the United States Government, Dr Koo told reporters that they would have to ask the State Department.

A State Department spokesman later said Mr Lovett had not handed Dr Koo any note.

Meanwhile, it was understood that the American and British Governments were exchanging views on China's request for their opinions on the Chinese situation.

Diplomatic quarters believed that the two governments would reply that there was little useful advice that they could furnish at this time.

—United Press.



"I've just got to reduce. It's getting so I can't get into your clothes any more!"

Aly And Rita Go Skiing



Aly Khan carries ski equipment as he and American film star Rita Hayworth set out for the ski run at Murren, Switzerland.—AP Picture.

EX-EMPEROR BAO DAI'S SURPRISE DECISION

Paris, Jan. 13.—Leading French Cabinet Ministers met in an emergency session today to consider the deadlock in Indo-China arising from the intimation of the refusal of Bao Dai, former Emperor of Annam, to return as head of the new Vietnam State until the French Government have given practical effect to the concrete guarantees of Vietnam independence.

BILL ODOM'S FLIGHT

Tiny Plane Said Running Well

Honolulu, Jan. 13.—Captain Bill Odom today crossed the half-way mark on the over-water leg of his 5,300-mile flight from Hawaii to New York, but he was running about four hours behind his flight plan. At 10:30 a.m. EST, Captain Odom was reported to be within 300 miles of the Washington coastline in his effort to break four long distance light plane records.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration picked up a position check from the flier in which he said he was about 1,350 miles from Honolulu and was flying at 7,500 feet. He said he was encountering a "few high scattered clouds" and estimated that he would cross the coast near Seattle about 7 p.m. EST.

The lanky round-the-world flier bid goodbye to his patrol bomber escort at 8:05 a.m. EST about 930 miles northeast of Hawaii. The bomber had accompanied him since he left Hickam Field at 11:31 p.m. EST last night. As the PBV Catalina wheeled to the southwest it radioed him: "Wish you good luck." Captain Odom replied: "Sorry to see you go."

He said the engine, a tiny Beachcraft Bonanza, was running "pretty well" and noted that the plane was performing about as well as expected.—United Press.

"CHILDREN'S ANGEL"

Casablanca, Jan. 13.—Count Leonardo Bonzi and Signor Lunidi, two Italian airmen flying a single-engine monoplane, the "Children's Angel," to South America to raise funds for 15,000 war-wounded Italian children, left here today for Dakar.

From Dakar they will make their Atlantic flight to Buenos Aires.

The "Children's Angel" is so small that all the available space has been given to fuel tanks, even a radio transmitter being sacrificed. The Italians, who are carrying a precious relic of St Francis which they hope will safeguard them on their 13,000-kilometre flight, left Albenga, near Genoa, on January 7.—Reuter.

200 U.S. PLANES FOR ITALY

Wiesbaden, Jan. 13.—Two hundred surplus planes from the American Air Force have been sold to Italy, the United States Air Force Headquarters announced here.

The statement, which declared that the U.S. State Department had approved the sale, said that the first delivery would be 100 C-45 twin-engine cargo planes and the remainder 100 L-5 single-motored observation planes, both wartime models.

Under the peace treaty Italy is allowed 200 fighter and reconnaissance planes and 180 transport and other aircraft, excluding bombers.—Reuter.

Dutch Premier Meets Indonesian Leader

Batavia, January, 13.—It was learned today that the Dutch Premier, Willem Drees, and the Indonesian leader, Professor Supomo, conferred for an hour yesterday. It was the first contact between the Dutch and the Republicans since the Netherlands attack on December 19.

The meeting took place at the palace of the Dutch High Commissioner, Louis Boel. A Dutch spokesman described the discussion as "reconnaissance" and indicated that there might be further contacts.

Indonesian sources said it was "completely informal in character," and Professor Supomo would not meet Drees again. It was believed that he had turned down an offer

to join the Dutch-sponsored interim government.

The meeting was understood to have been on Dutch initiative.

Representatives of the United Nations Good Offices Committee will fly to Bangka Island on Saturday to interview Republican leaders. The spokesman announced today. He said the American, Belgian and Australian members would travel aboard a Dutch aircraft to establish contact with the Republican leader, Mohammed Hatta, and the chairman of the Republican delegation, Dr Mohammed Rum. News correspondents will not be allowed to accompany the United Nations mission.

RADIO CLAIMS

The Republican underground radio claimed that Indonesian Army units based in Aceh province, at the northern tip of Sumatra, were opening an offensive against Dutch-occupied areas in the Dutch-sponsored state of East Sumatra. The radio said: "We succeeded in occupying some areas."

The radio reported that a tobacco research station situated at Klaten, between Jogjakarta and Surakarta, was attacked by guerrilla units last night. It said that guerrilla activity was increasing in the area south of the big Dutch seaport of Cirebon, on the northern coast of Java. It said the guerrillas attacked the Dutch from several directions but the Indonesians were forced to withdraw when Dutch reinforcements arrived from Djatibarang.

Meanwhile, neutral travellers returning from Soerabaya reported that the Indonesians destroyed approximately 100 bridges in the area, disrupting traffic in many places.—United Press.

THOUSANDS MOURN TOMMY HANDLEY

London, Jan. 13.—Londoners in their thousands turned out today to pay their last respects to Tommy Handley, the man who kept them laughing throughout the war.

Men and women stood in silent tribute as the cortège passed slowly through six miles of London streets to Golders Green crematorium.

Mounted police and motor cycle patrols cleared a path for the streams of cars. By the time the service began, more than 5,000 thronged the forecourt of the chapel and the road leading to it.

Tommy's show, "It's That Man Again," known to the whole country as ITMA, passed 300 performances at the end of last year.

The route of the funeral cortège, preceded by mounted police and motor cycle patrols, was specially altered to pass Tommy Handley's house, where his widow, unable to attend because of illness, watched from behind drawn curtains. Her wreath of red roses and a spray of spring flowers from Tommy's 85-year-old mother were the only tributes on the coffin.

Hundreds of other wreaths—five motor cars were required to carry them all—had poured in from all over Britain.

Sir William Haley, Director-General of the BBC, was present at the funeral and nearly every well-known BBC variety act was represented. The crowds outside the chapel listened to the services relayed by loudspeakers.—Reuter.

26 To Be Tried In Athens For Gold Smuggling

Athens, Jan. 13.—Twenty-six people, including a Swiss airman, will be tried in Athens on January 27 on charges of smuggling \$1,178,000 worth of gold into Greece from Switzerland and Egypt.

They are accused of belonging to an international gang which exports foreign currency into Switzerland in exchange for gold sovereigns and napoleons which were then smuggled into Greece.

Among the defendants are Panos Petalas, an exchange broker living in Switzerland; Gerard de Chabrier, a Swiss pilot, and a Greco-American pilot, Harry Nyant.

The two pilots are also accused of smuggling 4,000 Swiss watches into Greece.

Six of the accused, including a Greek naval officer, Constantine Bacopoulos, will be tried in their absence.

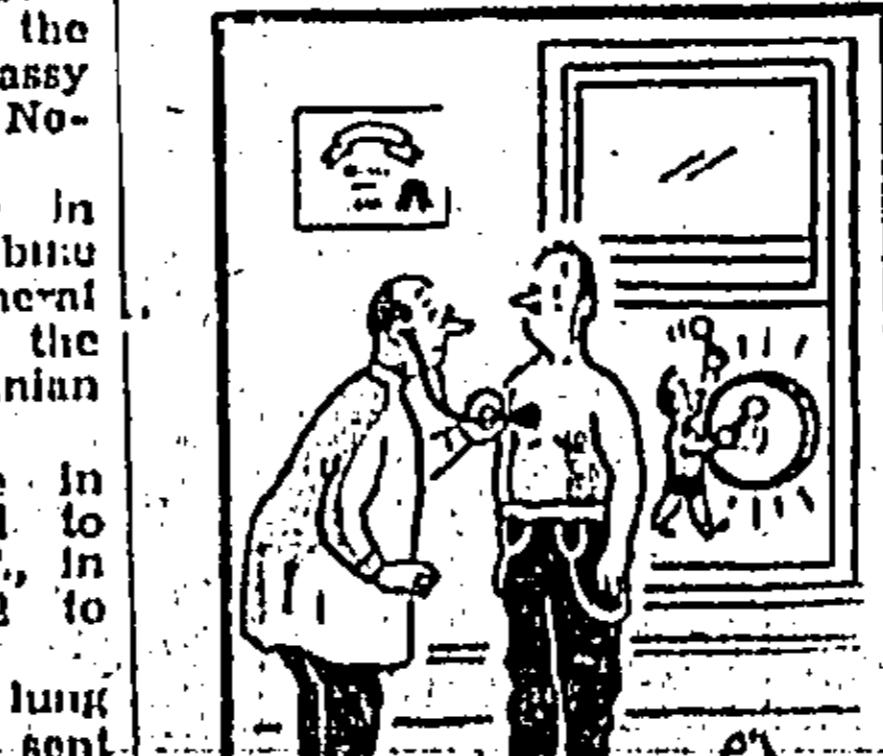
The trial follows the conviction in Athens last month of Cesare Rubirolo, the Secretary of the Dominican Legation in Berne, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for currency smuggling.—Reuter.

ANGLO-FINNISH TRADE TALKS

London, Jan. 13.—The Overseas Trade Minister, Mr Arthur Bottomley, opening the Anglo-Finnish trade talks here today, told the Finnish representatives: "The austerity of the British people is outdone by the austerity of Finland. I wish you every success in your endeavour to overcome the troubles that confront your country."

"British exports to Finland in 1948 increased 100 percent. Now that our productivity is rising, we hope still further to provide more of these traditional exports of manufactured goods so that the flow of trade with Finland can equal and even surpass prewar."—Reuter.

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